

Message Text

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ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7637

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AEGM MX

SUBJ: MORE "LESSONS" FROM VIETNAM

REF: MEXICO 3814

1. TO OUR DISCOMFORT, GOVERNMENT-LINING EL NACIONAL CONTINUES TO DRAW DISTINCTLY UNSYMPATHETIC CONCLUSIONS FROM WHAT IT CALLS THE "U.S. FAILURE IN INDOCHINA" (CF. REFTEL). IN MAY 8 EDITORIAL, POINT OF DEPARTURE IS POLICY STATEMENT ISSUED TWO DAYS AGO BY NATIONAL CONGRESS WHICH WELCOMED THE END OF THE VIETNAM WAR AND THE "NATIONAL VICTORY OF THE VIETNAMESE PEOPLE", AND THEN CALLED FOR ACHIEVEMENT OF A SOLID PEACE ALLOWING "FULL ENJOYMENT OF RIGHT OF SELF-DETERMINATION, WITHOUT FOREIGN INTERVENTION VIOLATING NATIONAL SOVEREIGNTY".

2. LESSON WHICH NACIONAL DRAWS IS THAT TRADITIONAL CONCEPTS OF INTERNATIONAL POLITICS AND THE ROLE OF FORCE HAVE LOST THEIR VALIDITY. GREAT POWERS HAVE DISCOVERED THAT -- EXCEPT IN THE MOST UNTHINKABLE EXTREME -- THEY CANNOT APPLY THE FULL WEIGHT OF THE FORCE THEY POSSESS. INCREASINGLY, NATIONAL AND WORLD PUBLIC OPINION ARE LIMITING THEIR OPTIONS. VIETNAMESE PEOPLE HAVE THUS SHOWN, SAYS NACIONAL, THAT STRATEGIES ARE AVAILABLE TO WEAK COUNTRIES FOR CARRYING ON FIGHT FOR NATIONAL
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LIBERATION AGAINST THE GREAT POWERS.

3. NACIONAL CONCLUDES THAT THOSE WHO WISH TO CONTRIBUTE TO ACHIEVING A JUST WORLD ORDER WOULD DO WELL TO STUDY CONGRESS'S POLICY STATEMENT ON VIETNAM, SINCE IT SHOWS THAT THE FORCE OF REASON HAS BEGUN TO PREVAIL OVER THE "REASON" OF FORCE, TO THE BENEFIT OF THOSE SEEKING THE SORT OF WORLD CONTEMPLATED IN CHARTER OF ECONOMIC RIGHTS AND DUTIES.

4. COMMENT: WORTH NOTING THAT NATIONAL CONGRESS, LIKE NACIONAL, IS DEPENDABLY GOVERNMENT-LINING. TEXT OF ITS POLICY STATEMENT WILL BE SUBMITTED BY AIRGRAM.

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